

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-11. (Canceled)

12. (Currently Amended) A compressor comprising:

a compressing mechanism for compressing a fluid that contains lubricating oil;

a separation chamber having an interior space that is to have revolved therein in a direction of revolution fluid compressed by said compressing mechanism such that at least part of the lubricating oil contained in the fluid is separated from the fluid by centrifugal force produced by revolution of the fluid within said interior space;

an exhaust hole at an upper end of said separator chamber for exhausting from said interior space the fluid compressed by said compressing mechanism after having been revolved in said interior space;

a feed hole for introducing into said interior space the fluid, compressed by said compressing mechanism, in a direction downwardly, with respect to a vertical axis of said separator chamber, away from said exhaust hole;

an oil-storage chamber for storing the lubricating oil separated from the fluid revolved in said interior space;

a communication passage provided between an upper part of said oil-storage chamber and said interior space, with said communication passage opening in a tangential direction of said interior space so that any fluid flowing into said interior space, via said communication passage, from said upper part of said oil-storage chamber ~~does not disturb revolution of the fluid~~ is aligned with the direction of revolution at a point of introduction into said interior space, ~~compressed by said compressing mechanism, in said interior space;~~ and

a lubricating oil discharge hole at a lower end of said separation chamber, below where said feed hole and said communication passage open into said interior space.

13-16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently Amended) A compressor comprising:

a compressing mechanism for compressing a fluid that contains lubricating oil;

a separation chamber having an interior space that is to have revolved therein fluid compressed by said compressing mechanism such that at least part of the lubricating oil contained in the fluid is separated from the fluid by centrifugal force produced by revolution of the fluid within said interior space;

an exhaust hole at an upper end of said separator chamber for exhausting from said interior space the fluid compressed by said compressing mechanism after having been revolved in said interior space;

a feed hole for introducing into said interior space the fluid, compressed by said compressing mechanism, in a direction downwardly, with respect to a vertical axis of said separator chamber, away from said exhaust hole, said feed hole being positioned eccentrically from a central axis of said interior space so that the fluid introduced into said interior space through said feed hole is guided in a circumferential tangential direction of said interior space;

an oil-storage chamber for storing the lubricating oil separated from the fluid revolved in said interior space;

a communication passage provided between an upper part of said oil-storage chamber and said interior space, with said communication passage opening in said circumferential tangential direction of said interior space so that any fluid flowing into said interior space, via said communication passage, from said upper part of said oil-storage chamber is introduced to flow in the same said circumferential tangential direction, at a point of introduction into said separation chamber, as the fluid introduced into said interior space through said feed hole so that it does not disturb revolution of the fluid, compressed by said compressing mechanism, in said interior space is flowing at said point of introduction.